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however, I have already said that action is being taken with regard to them.

PADMANABHAPURAM DIVISION.

TOVALA TALUK.

95. Tovala High level channel.

Mr. S. Ramasubramonia Iyer (Member, Agricultural Improvement Association, Nagercoil) said that the people of Nanjanad felt highly thankful to His Highness' Government for having sanctioned the opening of the Tovala channel, and to the Chief Engineer and his officers for the excavation of the first 9 miles within the short period of six months, and prayed for the completion of the channel by the close of the year 1084. It was the most useful of all the channels proposed to be opened in connection with the Kodayar Project, as it was calculated to avert the constant failure of crops in about 7,000 acres of wet land and bring under cultivation 18,000 acres of dry land.

Dewan's reply.—The work is under execution.

96. Land measure adopted at Settlement.

Mr. S. Shunmukham Pillai said that the land measure adopted at the Nanjanad settlement contravened the Royal Proclamation of the year 1061 M. E., and that the excess tax based on that standard should be reduced.

Dewan's reply.— The settlement of Nanjanad was completed ten years ago. Government are not prepared to reopen it now.

AGASTISVARAM TALUK.

97. Grazing grounds for villages.

Mr. K. N. Velayudhaperumal Pillai requested that grazing grounds be provided for the several villages in the Agastisvaram Taluk.

Dewan's reply.—As already stated in answer to one of the general questions, the question of grazing grounds is under consideration.

98. Tamil in primary schools.

Mr. K. C. Vairavanatha Pillai requested that Tamil be made the chief, and Malayalam the accessory language in the primary schools in Nanjanad. He said that Tamil was the mother-tongue of the people in Nanjanad, the language in which they spoke and wrote and in which Sirkar accounts were being kept. Tamil was not being taught in primary schools, and the young men left school without any knowledge of their own language or of Malayalam.

Dewan's reply.—It is open to the people to open private schools of their own, which will be recognised by

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Government and for which grants will be given, and they can teach Tamil in those schools as the chief language. Government cannot introduce Tamil as a chief language in any Sirkar school.

99. Thekkumalai to be thrown open for grazing.

Mr. B. Narayana Pillai requested that the Thekkumalai in the Agastisvaram Taluk be thrown open for the grazing of cattle throughout the year, instead of during certain months only. On the eastern side of the hills, cattle from the British Indian parts were being allowed to graze and fees were being levied for the same; while on the western side, heavy fines were realised if cattle of the taluk were taken in for grazing. No trees grew on the hills, and under existing management, the hills would never become filled with valuable trees. The member referred to the existence of a Government order under which cattle were being allowed to graze during some months, and said that, at other times, grazing was not prohibited but connived at by the forest subordinates. He requested that the practice be made to prevail throughout the year.

Dewan's reply.—Government are not prepared to increase the facilities for the grazing of cattle within forest reserves. The irregularities in forest administration mentioned by the member are, however, noted and will be enquired into.

100. Water-supply for the Nagercoil town.

Mr. S. Subramony Iyer urged the desirability of supplying the Nagercoil town with wholesome water for drinking purposes. He said that Nagercoil stood first among the towns in the State as regards density of population and was not behind others as regards her commerce and industry. The Kanakamulam market held on three days in a week; the annual festival at the St. Xavier's Church at Kottar, in connection with which Rs. 500 was being spent for the supply of good water in view to prevent the out-break of epidemic diseases; the existence of the District, Munsiff and Second Class Magistrate's Courts, of a Second Grade College and a High School, besides several other public offices and institutions went to swell the actual population in the town. The necessity for early steps being taken to ensure a good water-supply was brought to the notice of Government by the local Town Improvement Committee, which led to correspondence with the Engineer's Department. He then referred to the opinions of Mr. Jacob, Executive Engineer, and Mr. Jopp, the late Chief Engineer, regarding the feasibility of conducting water along a duct of iron pipes from a reservoir within

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